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ACUPUNCTURE POINT THERAPEUTIC DEVICE

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ACUPUNCTURE POINT THERAPEUTIC DEVICE

[Tsubo chikyo kigu]

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[Amendments have been incorporated into the text of the translation.]

Claims

1. An acupuncture point therapeutic device characterized by the fact that a projection that tapers to an apex is formed in the center of a thin-walled sheet-shaped base plate, and that several subsidiary projections with gently rounded apexes are formed peripheral to this projection, such that the height of the aforementioned subsidiary projections is less than the height of the aforementioned sharp projection.

2. The acupuncture point therapeutic device according to Claim 1, where the base plate, the sharp projection, and the subsidiary projections are integrally molded from soft synthetic resin, and fine ceramic powder radiating in the infrared is kneaded into this synthetic resin.

3. An acupuncture point therapeutic device, characterized by the fact that a pedestal, having in its center a through-hole for insertion of a needle, is piercewise formed in the center of a thin-walled sheet-shaped base plate, several subsidiary projections with gently rounded apexes are formed on the periphery of the pedestal, and the tip of a needle is caused to thrust outward from the apex of the aforementioned pedestal via the aforementioned through-hole.

4. The acupuncture point therapeutic device according to Claim 3, where the base plate, the pedestal, and the subsidiary projections are integrally molded from soft synthetic resin, and fine ceramic powder radiating in the infrared is kneaded into this synthetic resin.

Detailed explanation of the invention

[0001]

Industrial application field

The present invention pertains to a device used for stiff shoulders, for example, and relates to a therapeutic device having both of presses the acupuncture points and results in acupuncture effects.

[0002]

Prior art

Conventionally various simple domestic devices have been developed for therapy of stiff shoulders and the like. For instance, technology that uses a magnet and needle is publicly known as in Jikkai Sho 59[1984]-164641 and Jikkai Sho 60[1985]-43218. Technology is also publicly known for using pressure-sensitive adhesive tape to attach bean-sized magnets to the skin as a magnetic medical device. For many years the folk therapy has been widely known of attaching an adzuki bean itself to an acupuncture point using tape.

[0003]

Problems to be solved by the invention

Of the aforementioned prior art, the technology using magnet and needle has the object of a synergistic effect conferred by stimulation of the needle inserted into the skin while at the same time the magnetic field formed at the skin surface improves blood circulation in the area. Nevertheless, there are problems in that the effect differs according to the strength of the flux density provided by the magnet, and it is costly to sinter a magnetic material having a through-hole formed in the center and magnetize it. Also, since the needle punctures the skin, adequate sanitary

management is required, and caution must be exercised during packaging and handling. The problems relating to the technology wherein a magnet is attached by pressure-sensitive adhesive tape include differences in the effect with flux density, and that it is costly to form the magnet.

[0004]

The object of the present invention is to solve the problems of the prior art by offering a therapeutic device that presses the acupuncture point by a simple structure instead of using finger pressure, and accomplishes the synergistic effect known as acupuncture effect.

[0005]

In order to solve the aforementioned problems, the present invention uses a means to be described as follows: a projection that tapers to an apex is formed in the center of a thin-walled sheet-shaped base plate, and several subsidiary projections with gently rounded apexes are formed peripheral to this projection. And, the height of the aforementioned subsidiary projections is less than the height of the aforementioned sharp projection.

[0006]

A means is also used wherein a pedestal, having in its center a through-hole for insertion of needle, is piercewise formed in the center of a thin-walled sheet-shaped base plate, several subsidiary projections with gently rounded apexes are formed on the periphery of the pedestal, and the tip of a needle is caused to thrust outward from the apex of the aforementioned pedestal via the aforementioned through-hole.

[0007]

Furthermore a means is optionally used wherein the base plate, the sharp projection or the pedestal, and the subsidiary projections of Claim 1 or Claim 3, are integrally molded from soft synthetic resin, and fine ceramic powder radiating in the infrared is kneaded into this resin.

[0008]

Operation

With regards to the means of Claim 1, the centrally provided sharp projection pierces the skin by pressured contact by pressure-sensitive adhesive tape on the afflicted part, and expresses a function analogous to an intradermal needle. The peripherally provided subsidiary projections have the purpose of assisting the operation of the central sharp projection, thus the function of finger pressure is substituted by suitably pressing the gently rounded apexes on the skin surface. More specifically, the needle effect and the finger pressure effect are made to work synergistically

on the afflicted part, performing the operation of healing stiff shoulders and the like. The technique of having the height of the sharp projection greater than that of the subsidiary projections causes the needle function to be expressed positively.

[0009]

With regards to the means of Claim 3, the centrally provided pedestal performs the operation of supporting the separately constituted intradermal needle, allowing the needle to thrust outward from the through-hole, such that only this [outwardly thrusting] portion pierces the skin. Furthermore, the means of kneading a fine ceramic powder radiating in the far infrared into the material causes a heating effect to be expressed in addition to the needle effect and the finger pressure effect.

[0010]

Application examples

The following statements explain application examples of the invention according to the attached drawings. Figure 1 is an oblique view showing one application example of the invented article. The cylindrical sharp projection 2 projects from the center of one side of disc-shaped base plate 1. Around the periphery of base plate 1 the hemispherical subsidiary projections 3...3 are placed at 6 uniformly [spaced] positions. These are integrally molded from soft synthetic resin or silicone. The height relationship of sharp projection 2 and subsidiary projections 3 is such that, as shown in Figure 2, sharp projection 2 is somewhat higher than subsidiary projections 3.

[0011]

This device, as shown in Figure 3, is positioned with the projection facing the acupuncture point of the afflicted part, such as the stiff shoulder, for example, and held in position on skin 5 by pressure-sensitive adhesive tape 4 while gently pressing. Here, sharp projection 2 exhibits an effect analogous to a needle, and it is desirable that the cone angle [be such] that tip 6 causes local stimulation to the skin. On the other hand, subsidiary projections 3 complete the effect of sharp projection 2 by being positioned peripherally to sharp projection 2, being substitutes for finger pressure, so it is preferred that the apexes are not too sharp. For example, it is most suitable for hemispheres to be homogeneously brought into contact with the skin, as in the present application example, but other possibilities for accomplishing an approximately similar function include the structure shown in Figure 4, in which a small flat surface is formed by cutting off the apex of the hemisphere, and the structure shown in Figure 5, in which the apex of a quadrangular pyramid is cut off. The function can also be satisfactorily accomplished by other polygonal pyramids, such as triangular pyramids and pentagonal pyramids, for example. In the present application example,

subsidiary projections 3 are arranged at 6 equally apportioned positions, but the number is not limited to 6, but may be established at liberty, so, for example, 3 that are arranged in 3 equally apportioned positions, or 4 that must be arranged in 4 equally apportioned positions. However, if the number is too large, the pressure applied by each one will decrease too much, so it is preferred that there be less than 10.

[0012]

Regarding the composition of the present device, as described above, a soft synthetic resin or silicon is used, but it is also possible to form this by kneading in fine ceramic powder radiating in the infrared, for example, to exhibit an infrared radiation effect in addition to the needle effect and the finger pressure effect, thus having a high effect on improving circulation with regards to stiff shoulders and the like.

[0013]

Figure 6 shows a variant example of [the embodiment shown in] Figure 1. A square pyramid sharp projection 8 is furnished in the center of rectangular base plate 7, and hemispherical subsidiary projections 9 are furnished on both ends. The material is identical to that of Application Example 1, and the relation between the sharp projection 8 and the subsidiary projections 9 is also identical. Another point of similarity is the fact that fine ceramic powder radiating in the infrared has been kneaded in. This application example provides for 1 sharp projection 8 and 2 subsidiary projections 9, 9, so it can be narrower than Application Example 1; Application Example 1 and this variant example can thus be used differently according to the afflicted part.

[0014]

One of the 2 application examples described above has been circular and the other rectangular, but the function that is accomplished, and the effect will not be changed if other [shapes] such as square or oval [are used].

[0015]

Figure 7 is an oblique view of Application Example 2, in which a intradermal needle is incorporated. In the figure, 10 is a circular base plate, the 11s are hemispherical subsidiary projections positioned on the periphery at 6 to 10 equidistant positions, and thus [far] the structure is identical to Application Example 1. 12 is the intradermal needle, and 13 is the pedestal for intradermal needle 12. The cross sectional view of Figure 8 shows the detailed structure of pedestal 13 and intradermal needle 12. Specifically, Figure 8 shows the situation where the device has been used on a human body. Here through-hole 14 has been provided in the middle of pedestal

13, and the basepiece 15 of intradermal needle 12 is angulated as a supporting element, and positioned so that intradermal needle 12 can be projected out from the surface side from the back side of through-hole 14, and fixed in place by pressure-sensitive adhesive tape 16. In this application example, the material is also soft synthetic resin, identical to Application Example 1, using silicone for example, and optionally fine ceramic powder radiating in the infrared is kneaded in.

[0016]

Following this, Figure 9 shows a variant example of Application Example 2 of Figure 7. Similar to the relation between Figure 1 and Figure 6, the base plate 17 is rectangular, with the central needle pedestal 18 being integrally molded, and at the same time hemispherical subsidiary projections 19 are molded on either end. The structure of pedestal 18 and subsidiary projections 19 is identical to the application example of Figure 7, and the differences in material or use have already been explained.

[0017]

Effects of the invention

The present invention uses the structure described above, therefore it is able to accomplish 2 different effects called the needle effect and the finger pressure substitution effect, thus enabling an effective therapy by working synergistically. Furthermore, the specification of the acupuncture point is difficult with the needle alone, but [in the invention] it is used together with the finger pressure effect, so the specific tolerable range is broad, thus it can be easily used even by an amateur, and the needle is not thrust deeply into the skin, so the physiological aspects are also safe. The safety of the invention of Claim 1 is particularly high.

[0018]

Furthermore, the technique of kneading in fine ceramic powder radiating in the infrared into the soft synthetic resin expresses a heading effect against the afflicted part, so it synergistically produces 3 types of effects, thus making possible an even more effective device for stiff shoulder therapy.

Brief explanation of the figures

Figure 1 is an oblique view showing Application Example 1.

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view of the same.

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view showing a usage example of the same.

Figure 4 is an oblique view showing a variant example of the subsidiary projections.

Figure 5, similarly, is an oblique view showing a separate variant example of the subsidiary projections.

Figure 6 is an oblique view showing a variant example of Application Example 1.

Figure 7 is an oblique view of Application Example 2.

Figure 8 is a cross sectional view of the same.

Figure 9 is an oblique view showing a variant example of Application Example 2.

Explanation of the symbols

- 1 Base plate
- 2 Sharp projection
- 3 Subsidiary projections
- 4 Pressure-sensitive adhesive tape
- 5 Skin
- 6 Tip
- 7 Base plate
- 8 Sharp projection
- 9 Subsidiary projections
- 10 Base plate
- 11 Subsidiary projections
- 12 Intradermal needle
- 13 Pedestal
- 14 Through-hole
- 15 Basepiece
- 16 Pressure-sensitive adhesive tape
- 17 Base plate
- 18 Pedestal

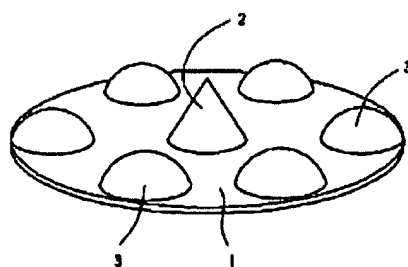


Figure 1

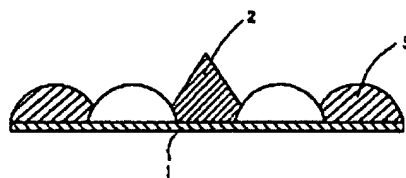


Figure 2

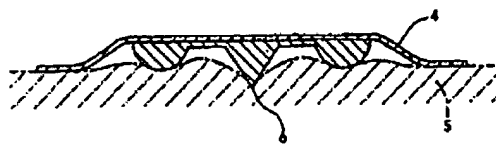


Figure 3



Figure 4

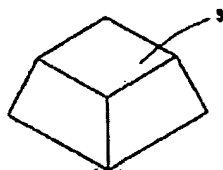


Figure 5

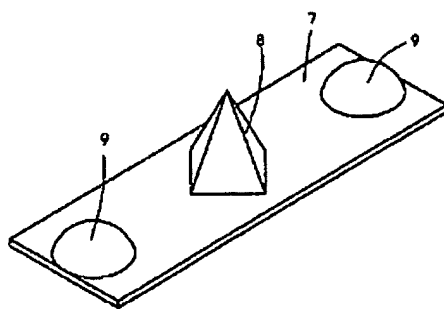


Figure 6

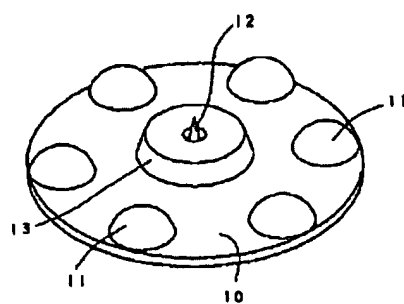


Figure 7

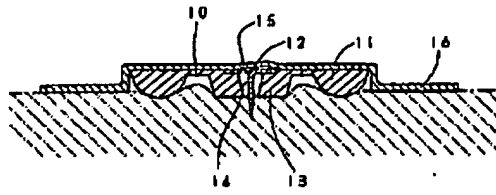


Figure 8

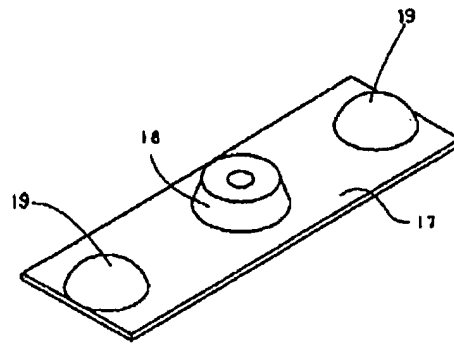


Figure 9